



Summarizing

Activity: Somebody/Wanted/But/So

Purpose: To construct a graphic organizer to summarize story elements.

1. Have students fold a sheet of paper in fourths (or use our graphic organizer) and write the following headings on the four sections: *Somebody, Wanted, But, So*.
2. Using a story that the students have read, have students complete their individual charts by writing a statement under each section:
 - Somebody (identify the character)
 - Wanted (describe the character's goal)
 - But (describe a conflict that hinders the character)
 - So (describe the resolution of the conflict)

Remind students to focus on information that is most significant.

Lesson variation: Place four Hula-Hoops on the floor, and label each hoop with one of the headings (*Somebody, Wanted, But, So*). After reading a story, have the students stand inside the hoops and summarize each corresponding aspect as they hop through the hoops.

*Source: Ellery, V. (2005). *Creating strategic readers*. Newark, Delaware: International Reading Association.

Somebody	Wanted
Gus a friendly ghost	Mouse to spend the winter at his house.
But	So
The Scotts came home and mouse was mean to them	Gus yelled at mouse and mouse said he would be good. When the Scotts left for winter again, mouse and Gus had fun!



Somebody

Wanted

But

So